

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

recognition of said feature;

an intelligent controller having associated therewith a  
means for accessing said programming material in  
response to receiving said coded signal; and  
a display unit for presenting said programming  
material.

169. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said at least one  
machine recognizable feature has associated therewith a data  
link which is recognized by said recognition unit.

170. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said data link  
comprises an image data link.

171. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said data link  
comprises a video data link.

172. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said data link  
comprises a programming data link.

173. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said data link

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

comprises a sound data link.

174. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said data link comprises an online data link.

175. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said data link comprises a online shopping data link.

176. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said data link comprises a pictorial data link.

177. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said data link comprises an electronic data link.

178. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said data link comprises an electronic media link.

179. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said data link comprises an "information superhighway" data link.

180. A system as defined in claim 179 wherein said "information

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

superhighway" data link comprises the internet.

181. A system as defined in claim 179 wherein said "information superhighway" data link comprises the world wide web.

182. A system as defined in claim 179 wherein said "information superhighway" data link comprises a computer network.

183. A system as defined in claim 179 wherein said "information superhighway" data link comprises an ISDN network.

184. A system as defined in claim 179 wherein said "information superhighway" data link comprises a telephone line.

185. A system as defined in claim 179 wherein said "information superhighway" data link comprises a CATV line.

186. A system as defined in claim 179 wherein said "information superhighway" data link comprises a local area network.

187. A system as defined in claim 179 wherein said "information

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

superhighway" data link comprises a wide area network.

188. A system as defined in claim 179 wherein said "information superhighway" data link comprises a data communications network.

189. A system as defined in claim 179 wherein said "information superhighway" data link comprises an Internet Product Service Directory.

190. A system as defined in claim 179 wherein said "information superhighway" data link comprises a globally based digital communications network.

191. A system as defined in claim 179 wherein said "information superhighway" data link comprises a wireless network link.

192. A system as defined in claim 179 wherein said "information superhighway" data link comprises a Wireless Application Protocol internet.

**PATENT**  
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

193. A system as defined in claim 179 wherein said "information superhighway" data link comprises an ethernet network.
194. A system as defined in claim 179 wherein said "information superhighway" data link comprises a RF cellular network.
195. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said at least one machine recognizable feature comprises a bar code.
196. A system as defined in claim 195 wherein said bar code comprises a Universal Product Code.
197. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said at least one machine recognizable feature comprises an invisible bar code.
198. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said at least one machine recognizable feature comprises a magnetic code.
199. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said at least one machine recognizable feature comprises a printed character.

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

200. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said at least one machine recognizable feature comprises a symbol.
201. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said at least one machine recognizable feature comprises a pictorial icon.
202. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said at least one machine recognizable feature comprises an invisible indicia.
203. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said at least one machine recognizable feature comprises a two-dimensional figure.
204. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said at least one machine recognizable feature comprises an icon.
205. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said at least one machine recognizable feature comprises an invisible icon.
206. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said at least one machine recognizable feature comprises a watermark.

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

207. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said at least one machine recognizable feature comprises an invisible watermark.
208. A system as defined in claim 207 wherein said invisible watermark comprises a digital watermark.
209. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said at least one machine recognizable feature comprises a series of alphanumeric characters.
210. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said at least one machine recognizable feature comprises a binary code.
211. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said at least one machine recognizable feature comprises a digital watermark.
212. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said at least one machine recognizable feature comprises a magnetic strip.
213. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said at least one

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

machine recognizable feature comprises a code.

214. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said at least one machine recognizable feature comprises an on line shopping product code.

215. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said at least one machine recognizable feature comprises a home shopping product code.

216. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said at least one machine recognizable feature comprises an online shopping service code.

217. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said at least one machine recognizable feature comprises a home shopping service code.

218. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said at least one machine recognizable feature comprises an analog pattern.



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

219. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said at least one machine recognizable feature comprises a hieroglyphic character.

220. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said programming material comprises a service.

221. A system as defined in claim 220 wherein said service includes displaying promotional programming on said display unit of a user.

222. A system as defined in claim 220 wherein said service includes displaying a Web page related to an organization printed on said business card.

223. A system as defined in claim 220 wherein said service includes displaying a Web page related to a plurality of individuals printed on said business card.

224. A system as defined in claim 220 wherein said service includes conducting an interaction with a plurality of

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

individuals listed on said business card via a telephone.

225. A system as defined in claim 220 wherein said service includes conducting an interaction with a plurality of individuals listed on said business card via an online communication chat link.
226. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said display unit comprises a personal computer.
227. A system as defined in claim 226 wherein said personal computer comprises a laptop computer.
228. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said display unit comprises a television.
229. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said display unit comprises a device containing a microprocessor.
230. A system as defined in claim 229 wherein said device containing a microprocessor is hand-held.

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

231. A system as defined in claim 229 wherein said device containing a microprocessor is portable.
232. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said display unit comprises a personal digital planner.
233. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said display unit comprises an internet appliance.
234. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said display unit comprises a cellular telephone.
235. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said display unit comprises a wireless communication device.
236. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said display unit comprises a simulated book.
237. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said display unit comprises an intelligent terminal.

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

238. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said display unit comprises a web-based television.

239. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said display unit comprises a pager.

240. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said display unit comprises an Internet-enabled telephone.

241. A system as defined in claim 168 wherein said recognition unit is selected from a group consisting of a hand-held unit, a scanner, a bar code scanner, an optical code reader, an optical reader, a personal camera, a personal computer reader, a digital camera, a digital mouse and an optical mouse.

242. A system as defined in claim 241 wherein said recognition unit is linked to a personal computer.

243. A system as defined in claim 241 wherein said recognition unit is linked to a wireless interface.

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

244. A system as defined in claim 243 wherein said wireless interface comprises a wireless network.
245. A system as defined in claim 244 wherein said wireless network comprises a cellular network.
246. A system as defined in claim 243 wherein said wireless interface comprises a cellular telephone.
247. A system as defined in claim 243 wherein said wireless interface comprises a pager.
248. A system as defined in claim 243 wherein said wireless interface comprises a wireless personal computer.
249. A system as defined in claim 243 wherein said wireless interface comprises a personal digital assistant.
250. A system as defined in claim 241 wherein said recognition unit is linked to a personal digital assistant.

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

251. A system as defined in claim 241 wherein said recognition unit is linked to an Internet appliance.
252. A system as defined in claim 241 wherein said recognition unit is linked to a television set.
253. A system as defined in claim 241 wherein said recognition unit comprises a portion of a cellular telephone.
254. A system as defined in claim 241 wherein said recognition unit comprises a portion of a personal digital assistant.
255. A system as defined in claim 241 wherein said recognition unit comprises a portion of a remote control unit.
256. A system as defined in claim 241 wherein said recognition unit comprises a portion of a handwriting implement.
257. A method of providing a user access to programming material, comprising the steps of:
- imprinting a machine recognizable feature within a

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

printed business card;

scanning said machine recognizable feature of said

printed business card; and

transmitting data associated with said machine

recognizable feature via a communication link to

access said programming material, wherein said

programming material is related to said printed

printed business card.

258. The method of claim 257 wherein said communication link includes the Internet.

259. The method of claim 257 wherein said machine recognizable feature is selected from a group consisting of bar code, universal product code, invisible bar code, magnetic code, printed character, symbol, icon, invisible indicia, two-dimensional figure, icon, invisible icon, watermark, invisible watermark, digital watermark, series of alphanumeric characters, binary code, digital watermark, magnetic strip, code, analog pattern, and hieroglyphic character.

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

260. A method of providing a user access to supplemental programming material associated with a printed business card, comprising the steps of:

imprinting a machine recognizable feature within said printed business card wherein said machine recognizable feature has associated therewith a command sequence for accessing programming material;

scanning said machine recognizable feature within said printed business card and downloading data indicative of said machine recognizable feature via the Internet to a remote server; accessing programming material from said remote server; and transmitting said programming material to said user allowing said user to perceive said programming material in a humanly perceivable form, wherein said programming material is related to said printed business card.

261. The method of claim 260 wherein said programming material comprises multimedia.



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

262. The method of claim 260 wherein said machine recognizable feature is selected from a group consisting of a bar code, a universal product code, invisible bar code, magnetic code, printed character, symbol, icon, invisible indicia, two-dimensional figure, icon, invisible icon, watermark, invisible watermark, digital watermark, series of alphanumeric characters, binary code, digital watermark, magnetic strip, code, analog pattern, and hieroglyphic character.